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1908.

Introductory Lecture on the Connection of Theory with Practice.

V Hygiene considers the means of
preserving health.

1 [redacted] 178 Nov[r] 1803
Nov[r] 1806

Gentlemen,

~~I said in my introductory lecture~~, my business in this University ~~[redacted]~~ to teach the Institutes of medicine & the practice of Physic.

Hygiene,

The former include Physiology ~~or the art of preserving health~~ Pathology & the what are called Therapeutics, or the general method of curing disease founded upon a knowledge of their causes previously explained in the lectures upon Pathology. The latter includes the history of the signs & cause of particular diseases. Physiology considers the functions of the human body in their healthy state. Pathology considers the causes which derange those functions, & thereby induce diseases. Those causes ~~are~~ include all

V lectures upon each of those branches
of medicine, I shall from this Chair twice a week deliver
clinical remarks upon such cases of disease
as occur in the Penns: Hospital. The
different subjects of these lectures are divided in
the Univ: of Pen[a] into three distinct profesorships. I have preferred
uniting them - because they are con-
-nected necessarily, and can be
useful & intelligible only by being taught
under the direction of the same princi-
-ples & I wish to as much

external & internal impressions which
in a morbid degree
act upon the body, and the changes
induced by them in the structure, & actions
of the different functions.

Therapeutics considers the Remedies
which cure diseases as unfolded by
pathology.

The practice of physic descends to
the application of the principles explai=
-ned in therapeutics, to the cure of
particular diseases. giving rise to

Besides a full acct of all the subjects
which are included in the above
division of our Course, shall be
is contained in a Syllabus which will be published
shortly with a volume of
Introductory Lectures delivered by Dr in

As possible to defray the expenses of
a medical education in our University,

~~Penitentiary~~ ~~Gent.~~ ~~to succeed~~ ~~Rio University.~~ ~~some years ago.~~ ~~The Lectures~~ ~~Gent. will I hope be useful to you as~~ ~~to your present~~. They contain many of my peculiar Opinions ~~in medicine of the~~ in medicine, & they will help ~~Friends of~~ to render many parts of our Course more intelligible to you. ~~these Lectures~~ those I have ~~The design of the~~ introductory Lectures ~~on the~~ first of the Connection between ~~theory & practice~~ bodies and in medicine. ~~After~~ The ~~experience of~~ nearly 15 years ~~in teaching~~ this ~~Science~~, and ~~after~~ above 30 years practice of nearly ~~by 40~~ years, I have confirmed all that I have said in ~~favor~~ that Lecture ~~,~~ in favor of the Union of Observation & reasoning in medicine in order to constitute a Physician or to improve our Science. I know Gent.ⁿ ~~I am~~

V The Science of medicine cannot stand

upon any one, nor yet upon any

two of them. But

it is fashionable to decry theory in medicine,
and to extol facts, or what is commonly called
experience at its expence. But facts and
experience are as useless & ~~impossible~~
delusive without theory; as theory is without
facts. Medicine may justly be compared
to a tripod obliged stool. The three feet of
this tripod - are Observation - Experiment,
and reasoning, or theory. ~~Take away one leg~~
~~fall to the ground - but unite~~
~~they are unable to support the~~
united,
they mutually support each other. It is
true the progress of Science has been retarded by
so many erroneous Systems of medicine;
but it is equally true it has been more
retarded and injured by erroneous Observations,
and fallacious experiments; & hence Dr.
Cullen used often to tell his pupils

(if the expression be allowed)
there were [underline]no false facts[/underline] to be found
theory in medicine. ~~The advantages which~~
~~have resulted from the Combinations~~ Facts are
the touchstones of theories, as theories are of facts.
I cannot better illustrate the truth of this
remark than by mentioning the advantages
which our Science has derived from the
labors of two men whose names are im=
=mortal in the history of medicine. I mean
Dr Sydenham, & Sir John Hunter. The
former overthrew the theories of ages by
the facts he brought to light by his faithful
& accurate histories of diseases; while the
latter overthrew thousands of hypothetical facts by
by his theories, or in other words by
his discoveries of the laws of the animal
Oeconomy, and the Operation of medicines

That the late ~~Lodowick~~ Infidels have done
who have attempted to divide Morals
from Religion. Theory & practice

in the Case of diseases. ~~But to go on~~ Permit me to add further, that those men who attempt to divide theory & practice, aim at the same impossibility! They are inseperably connected by an immutable & eternal law in the human Mind. "To think is to theorise" ~~as~~ says Dr Darwin, and where is the physician or the man economise, or even suspend that can, ~~become~~ the involuntary operation of his mental faculties in thinking? There never was a physician who did not secretly theorise, or who ever prescribed a medicine without a secret indication of Cure founded upon a theory of disease kind. The clamors which ~~he~~ has been excited against theories ~~are confined~~ directed wholly against such theories as are vain. ~~for~~ This has remarkably the case in Edin[2] ~~in the~~ when Dr Cullen first

~~sought~~ discovered, & plaud the proximate
cause of diseases in the solids instead of the
fluids. His ~~his~~ Brethren ~~professors~~ who were
devoted to ~~unacquainted in~~ the Lecture ~~the~~ the
humors of Dr Boerhaave, ~~the~~ alkaline & muriatic
theorizing, and for a while treated his opinions
as the effusions of a wild & distempered imagination,
~~the~~ The Doctor was not insensible of the incon-
-sistency of these charges against him, & de-
-claring himself of the simplicity of his prin-
-ciples, publickly declard that there was
more theory in one page of Vanswietens
Commentaries upon Dr Boerhaave's Aphorisms,
than there was in a dozen of his lectures.
As a proof that the ~~Doctrines~~ unpopular & odious
nature of theory consists only in its novelty,
it will ~~be~~ not be improper to aid that the
Edinr devoted
learned Physicians who were ~~unacquainted~~ abt.

8

V In thus adopting Dr Cullens theories, Mysts
treating them with contempt & ridicule they
resembled the Priest who met on his way
to a costly feast a collection of choice pears
and being unwilling to spoil his appetite
by eating fruit — upon them. He
the sudden.

V I am aware that the detection and
rejection of Dr Cullen theories

50 years ago to Dr Boerhaave's theories of the
now
morbid Acrimonies, are equally stationary
erroneous as they were called
in Dr Cullen's theories of ~~pas~~ prate-faction,
and of the efficacy of the sedative powers of
nature, and of the sedative action of certain
medicines in the Cure of Diseases. V

In one of moliere's plays entitled the
"Citizen turned Gentleman". The
applies to a profession of Rhetoric to
citizen ~~of Paris is informed~~
be taught the principles of language. The
professor began by dividing all writings
two kinds, viz
into verse & prose, and illustrated each of
them by quotations, - the one from the
poets - the other, from the language of common
conversation. - The citizen no sooner heard the latter,
that
than he discovered he was in profession of
the knowledge, & exulted in the reflection that
of it,
he had been in the habit of speaking &
writing prose without knowing it in every

part of his life. The same thing may be said of those physicians who are the enemies of theory. They are in the habit of exercising it without knowing it, in every Act of their minds, when they prescribe for the cure of diseases. —

It is no objection to theory that we can not explain the causes of all diseases, and of course that as yet we cannot have a perfect system of medicine. The same thing may be said of all other Sciences. As the science of navigation is still imperfect, and yet we do not upon that account reject the Advantages we derive from the magnet, the Quadrant, & from Lunar Observations.

a

It has been remarked that as far as it relates to the cure of diseases more discoveries have been made in medicine within the last 40 years, than had been made for

practioner of medicine
and the ~~practicioner~~ who relies ~~practices~~ upon
them exclusively, without combining them
~~with~~ with theory ~~and~~ in the treatment of diseases,
is now a science than a collection of
bricks in a Brickyard, - is a house,
The man who practices medicine, without no
other resources than volumes of unconnected facts in his
memory, is no more a physician, than the
day labourer who carries the hod, is a master
builder. ~~Medicine~~

centuries before. The reason of this is ~~that~~ was ~~added to~~ there has been more theory into= -duced into our Science within that period than formerly, ~~and that too~~ by means of which ~~torpid~~ dormant facts have been brought to light and such as were erroneous, have been detected ~~admitted~~ to be from the practice of physic. rejected ~~from medicine~~.

~~It is as much an obj~~ Medicine.

~~The practice of physic~~ when founded upon ~~only upon~~ only upon facts, is no ~~facts only~~, is ~~not~~ Medicine ~~& the~~ becomes a Science only when ~~it is~~ facts are combined with theory, & that man ~~who~~ only is a physician who prescribes under the influ= -ence of ~~facts & theory~~ them both. As a System of Religion of some kind has always been found necessary to promote good morals, so a System of some kind has always been found equally necessary to promote regular

V In like manner gent. I have resolved to follow reason, or to theorize in medicine as long as it shall please God to continue ~~to the last moments of my life~~ to me the exercise of the reasoning faculties of my mind. I am the more encouraged to adhere to this resolution ~~for~~ by ~~my~~ the advantages I have derived from reasoning in medicine, for if I have at at any time ~~upon~~ the mortality of a single disease, I declare them publickly,

& successful practice in medicine.

After these preliminary remarks permit
kindly inform you Gent: them duty &
inclination alike concur, to determine
me to teach the theory as well the prac=
tice of medicine from this chair. ~~I~~
also I once attended the only son of a
foreign gentleman in this city in a dropsy
of the Brain. I advised the loss of a few ounces
at first
of blood in his case. The remedy startled,
& distressed the father of the child, but after
a few moments reflection he clapped
his hands together, & cried out in a pathetic tone of voice in
the french language.
la Raison - jusque la Dernière moment
de la Vie". "I will follow the dictates of
reason to the last moment of my life"
resolution
- I have long ~~am disposed to~~ adopted the ~~same~~ determi=
=nation in

the science of medicine, nor have I had
reason to repent it; for if it has pleased
God in a single instance to have made me
the instrument of stopping the mortality
of any one disease, I ~~do~~ declare this pref-
-erably ~~in a course of the reasoning in medicine~~
means of ~~acquiring it~~ which
I was led to the discovery of the ~~remedies~~
doing so ~~it~~ ~~effected~~, not by accident, not by precedents
derived from books, ~~or~~ not ~~from~~ by ~~former~~ expe-
-rience, but ~~by~~ by a preconceived theory ~~reasoning~~ in medicine.

~~It has~~ My lot in our science has
been a difficult & laborious one. ~~I have studied~~
~~medicine three years - that is - I have~~ I was
educated a Boerhavian, in Edin^r I became a
disciple of Dr Cullen. Soon after I began to
practise physic, I found ~~Dr Cull~~ the system
of my illustrious master did not accord

† Those Circumstances are the most consoling, as
they not only
approved to a great degree strength of prejudice, but
of sick people.
any modes of practice - to the feelings

they not been led by many Others
found them to a more more
I have one more reason for believing
Successful practice in common Dis-
=eases, & to the cure of some diseases
are deemed incurable, by them. But I have
two other reasons for believing them to
be true, the first is that they have generally
been in the habit
adopted I have for many years past
of receiving graduates of
letters from the former students of our Univer-
=sity from all the different States in which they
have been informed that they had found
the new modes of practice had taught them, as
Successful in their hands, as they had been in my
own. 2dly I have Those modes of practice have
been adopted & with success by those

with the phenomina of diseases. actuated by
an ardent desire to ~~be~~ save the lives of my
patients, more than any ~~other~~ thing else, I
soon ~~resolved~~ to depart from the principles
of my master, & read & thought for myself.
~~Hence~~ painful
~~This~~ The result of my inquiries is well known
to you all. ~~For a while I~~ ~~thought~~ ~~that~~
~~with~~ doubted of ~~their~~ truth, & spoke of them
with diffidence. For I should ~~have presumed~~
~~to have~~ at this day have presumed to have
acknowledged my belief & confidence in them had
~~they not~~ ~~been~~ the ~~change~~ ~~this~~ ~~of practice to~~
~~they first been~~, ~~been adopted by those~~
gentlemen who for many years pub-
-licly & privately opposed them. ~~—~~ ≠
~~=~~ Be not alarmed Gent: ~~of~~ at my determi-
-nation to ~~teach~~ blend the theory ~~of medicine as far~~
~~as I am able~~, with my lectures upon the

V in number that you will readily re-
-tain them. Such of you as have brought
to this University
~~with you~~ the theories of Dr Cullen, ~~or Dr Brown~~,
Dr Brown or
will be great losers by exchanging them for
~~them~~
Dr Brown's for I will ~~give~~ give you but six where
~~have~~
~~they~~ given you two, & where Dr Cullen has
~~have~~
~~they~~ given you twenty. ~~Issue of course~~ Neither
Gent: let your fears be excited, least I should
not mingle facts with my theories; so far
from it, I will venture to promise you that
I shall deliver at least 1000 facts to one
theory. Indeed my whole course of lectures will
consist chiefly of facts after this
introduction, I proceed to take notice that D.C.L.
I am not insensible Gent: of
~~the~~ Clamours, & slanders that have been
followed
~~my doctrines~~ the principles, & mode of

practice of Physic. ~~My~~ all the theories I shall deliver to you will be simple, & easy of apprehension. ~~so much so that they may~~ They will ~~not~~ moreover be so few in ~~number~~, ~~& they~~ shall they exclude a large collection of facts. Indeed I will venture to promise you that I will deliver ~~no~~ facts in the Course of these lectures to one theory ~~nor~~ shall I deliver a single theory which ~~shall not~~ be supported by facts.

I have ~~not~~ no new Remedies to recommend to you for the Cure of diseases. ~~My principles~~ The changes ~~I have~~ to be made in my principles will lead to a ~~Practice made shall recommend to you in a Physical~~ more proper & safe practice founded ~~will consist~~ in the use of old remedies ~~at~~ ~~differently~~ ~~in~~ than in the use of any new ones.

~~I have carefully avoided ~~to~~ saying any~~ ~~Claim to saving~~ ~~any~~ In this defending theory in medicine, & promising to teach it, I beg

practice I have taught in this university.
- But I am not, & shall not be discouraged
by them. as long as I am able to ~~utter~~
up these stairs, & to ascend this desk I shall
continue to teach them - because I believe
them to lecture, & know them to be useful.
- My lot is in the profession of medicine tho'
a ~~useful~~ is not I have nevr yet replied to
a single attack in person. I have
hitherto treated the public & the more
insidious private attacks that have been
made upon my principles & practice with silence, & what is
more with forgiveness, — and I shall continue
to do so as long as I live.

Gentlemen, you would ~~not~~ not suppose that I lay the least claim to ~~the~~ being the Author of a new System of Medicine. A little Lane I aspired to a mitre or a Crown as to that honor in our presence. A System of Medicine provides a theory for every disease, & ~~for~~ an explanation of every phenomenon in the Animal Economy. My principles lead only to an explanation of a part of the diseases of the human body, and a which ~~Solution of~~ but a few of the laws of the govern it. But while I thus limit the extent of ~~my~~ ~~knowledge~~ my principles, I do not hesitate to declare that I believe all the laws of the Animal Economy, & all the causes of Diseases admit of explanation, and that ~~power or later~~ sooner or later ~~a System will arise~~ from the

~~the possibility of~~

V ~~possibility~~ ~~impracticability of~~ our arriving at the perfection & certainty of medicine is ~~the~~ only means ~~to obtain~~ attaining ~~if the desired~~ to them. After this general & preliminary remarks, I proceed now to make a few remarks upon the ~~method of studying~~ acquiring a knowledge of the practice of physic. I proceed to take notice,

~~successive~~ Labors & Contributions of different
men, & perhaps of successive generations, ~~former~~
there will be formed a Complete System of
medicine. ~~& to believe this is~~ to do any good.
Being ~~for~~ Let then the Consideration
=~~ness to the Impossible~~
of the present imperfect & unfinished State of
the Science of medicine animate you, ~~in your~~
~~studies~~ to add your labors to those of your pre=
=decessors in order to complete it. The United
States have already added several Stones
~~given a new & strong impulse to every~~
to this building. Let it not become weakened
=ness. ~~Lose not~~
~~your hands~~ Who knows but what Heaven
has destined ~~it~~ the Cap~~-~~stone ~~of it~~ ~~of the building~~
to be placed upon it by some American
Physician, & and perhaps by some of
the Gentlemen I have now the
~~to whose~~ ~~counsels~~ always recollect that
honor of ~~his~~ addressing. ~~The~~ a Religion